**TOK ESSAY OUTLINE**

*“The possession of knowledge carries an ethical responsibility”*

Introduction:

* Explain how I understand the question/say what I think it means
* Outline how I’m going to talk about it in the body (using ways of knowing (reason, emotion, ssense perception) and areas of knowledge (ethics, sciences, history).

Body:

* Paragraph 1:
* Knowledge gained ‘by accident’ ..
* For example: if you see someone do something they weren’t supposed to/hear someone say something etc.
* AOK involved: ethics
* WOK involved: sense perception, emotion and reason
* Sense perception: you have to see or hear the person to gain the knowledge.
* Emotion: decided whether you should tell.
* Example one: if you see someone cheating on a test – should you tell the teacher? Emotion says no because you’ll be ‘un-cool’ or get into trouble with the person and probably other people for telling on. Reason says yes because that person has an unfair advantage and everyone should be rewarded according to how much work they’ve put in.
* Example two: you see someone stealing
* Paragraph 2:
* Knowledge that you have gained through learning
* For example, going to school/college/university and learning something
* Eg. Doctor
* WOK: reason, emotion mainly
* AOK: ethics, sciences possibly
* Should a doctor always be obliged to use his/her knowledge to help someone? What if it’s a mass murderer who needs an operation – should he be helped?
* (utilitarian theory could be used – it benefits more people to let him die so should the doctor still save him?)
* Paragraph 3:
* Knowledge that you weigh up – if your knowledge hurts someone more than helps should you tell them
* WOK: sense perception, reason, emotion
* AOK: ethics
* Eg. You see your friend’s child taking drugs – should you tell? It would hurt your friend but may help the child?
* Eg. 2 you see someone stealing something but you know that they are incredibly poor and will go without dinner without the thing they stole – its ‘right’ to tell the authorities when someone steals, but is it right when you know the circumstances of why that person stole?

Conclusion:

* Wrap up the arguments to finish the essay
* Reiterate my main points without repeating myself
* Mention broader implications of the argument